

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please add the following paragraph before the first paragraph beginning at page 1, line 1:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application claims the benefit of U.S. provisional application serial no. 60/483,794 filed June 30, 2003, which is incorporated herein by reference.

This application relates to a system, method, signal, and computer program product for fractal video coding. Fractal compression, which is based on the iterated function system (IFS), is known as an alternative video coding technique. The basic notion of the fractal image compression is to find a contraction mapping whose unique attractor approximates the source image. In the decoder, the mapping is applied iteratively to an arbitrary image to reconstruct the attractor. If the mapping can be represented with fewer bits than the source image, a coding gain is obtained.